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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/664,168 | 09/17/2003 | Maurice Johan Jozef Haan | 0142-0424P | 4189 |
| 2292 | 7590 | 05/03/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747 | | | VO, ANH T N | |
| | | ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | 2861 | | |

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AB

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/664,168 | HAAN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Anh T.N. Vo | 2861 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 - Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 - Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/17/03
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The references cited on PTO 1449 have been considered.

Specification

The specification has been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. However, the applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objection

Claims 1 and 6 are objected to because it does not clearly recite preamble and body language. Also, in claim 6, line 2, "an" should be changed to --a first--. Appropriate correction is required.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-7 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by childers et al. (US Pat. 6,227,638).

Childer et al. disclose in Figures 1-8 an ink jet recording apparatus comprising:

- an electronic memory device (26) for storing information on the contents of the ink tank (12), said ink tank comprising an elongated casing (72) having one end thereof adapted to be inserted into a mounting socket (14) of the ink jet printer in an essentially horizontal direction, said electronic memory device (26) being provided on a bottom side (74) of the casing (72) and configured to electrically engage the mounting socket (14) under the weight of the ink tank;
- a coupling member (20) extending from said one end of the casing and adapted to engage a coupling member (28) of the mounting socket (14) so as to fluidly connect the interior of the ink tank (12) with the ink supply system of the printer;
- wherein the electronic memory device (26) is configured as a button which is located near said one end of the casing.
- wherein the electronic memory device (26) is held in a mounting recess (80) formed on the outside of a bottom wall of the casing (Figures 6-7);
- wherein the button (26) has a casing (78) comprising a circumferential wall and a bottom wall which are both made of electrically conductive material but are electrically insulated from one another so as to form at least two electrical contacts (24).
- mounting socket (14) adapted to receive and hold an ink tank (12) which comprises a support arm which is provided with an upwardly biased spring contact (30) which is adapted to engage the electronic memory device (26) of the ink tank (12) (Figure 8); and
- wherein said support arm contains a second spring contact (30) which is adapted to

engage a circumferential wall of the electronic memory device (26) (Figure 8).

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. These prior art references (US Pat.4,838,804; US Pat. 5,049,898; US Pat. 6,196,670; US Pat. 6,406,120; US Pat. 6,588,871) cited in the PTO 892 form show a memory that is deemed to be relevant to the present invention. These references should be reviewed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-9 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. These claims would be allowable because none of the prior art references of record discloses a mounting socket for an ink tank comprising a coupling member of the mounting socket adapted to be brought into engagement with a coupling member of the ink tank , the coupling members being held in engagement by snap-action, and wherein a second spring contact is biased against the circumferential wall of an electronic memory device in a direction opposite to the direction in which the coupling members are engaged in the combination as claimed.

CONCLUSION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Anh Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2262. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 8:00 A.M.to 6:00 P.M..

The fax number of this Group 2861 is (703) 872-9306.



ANH T.N. VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

April 27, 2005